

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#31B  
T/A  
12-7-01

In re application of:

Masajirou INOUE et al

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Serial No.: New Continuation Application of  
U.S.S.N. 09/877,233

Atty. Docket No.: 106145-00029

Filed: November 8, 2001

For: LIQUID THERMOSETTING SEALING AGENT FOR POLYMER ELECTRODE  
MEMBRANE FUEL CELL, SINGLE CELL FORMED WITH SEALING AGENT,  
ITS PROCESS, AND PROCESS FOR REGENERATING POLYMER ELECTRODE  
MEMBRANE FUEL CELL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

November 8, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examination of this application, please amend the above-identified  
application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend page 18, seventh paragraph as follows:

-- Figs. 19A and 19B are schematic drawings showing the state of the deformation  
of the separator according to the degree of surface pressure  $\alpha$  of the seal  $q_1$  according to  
the present invention and the surface pressure  $\beta$  of the diffusion layer. --